



# CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## JULY 2004 AGENDA

### SUBJECT

Advisory Commission on Special Education: Report on Activities

- ☐ Action
- ☒ Information
- ☐ Public Hearing

### RECOMMENDATION

Consider the report of activities of the Advisory Commission on Special Education regarding issues affecting students with disabilities.

### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Following a brief report at the March 2004 meeting from the Advisory Commission on Special Education given during the public comment period, the Executive Director of the State Board of Education proposed that the Advisory Commission on Special Education be provided with a regular opportunity at future State Board meetings to provide reports of information and updates on activities as an agenda item. This is consistent with opportunities provided to other state Commissions. The Advisory Commission on Special Education liaisons provided their first activities report to the State Board of Education at the May, 2004 meeting. The Advisory Commission on Special Education met four times during the 2003-04 school year during the months of October, March, April and June. They will establish their meeting schedule for the 2004-05 school year at their June meeting.

### SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

The Advisory Commission on Special Education is required by both Federal statute paragraph (21) of subdivision (a) of Section 1412 of Title 20 of the United States Code and state statute, *Education Code* sections 33590-33596.

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 33590, the Advisory Commission on Special Education consists of fifteen public members of which five are appointed by the State Board of Education, four are appointed by the governor, three are appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and three are appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. A majority of the members of the Commission are individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities who are knowledgeable about the wide variety of disabling conditions that require special programs. Commission membership is selected to ensure that it is a representative group of the state population composed of individuals involved

## **SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

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in, or concerned with education of children with disabilities.

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 33595 (a) and (b) the Commission studies and provides assistance and advice to the State Board of Education, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Legislature, and the Governor in new or continuing areas of research, program development, and evaluation in special education.

The Commission also does the following: (1) Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of individuals with exceptional needs; (2) Advise the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary for Education in the United States Department of Education; (3) Advise the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec.1400 et seq.); (4) Advise the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for individuals with exceptional needs.

The Commission shall report to the State Board of Education, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Legislature, and the Governor not less than once a year on the following with respect to special education: (1) Activities enumerated in Section 56100 that are necessary to be undertaken regarding special education for individuals with exceptional needs; (2) The priorities and procedures utilized in the distribution of federal and state funds; (3) The unmet educational needs of individuals with exceptional needs within the state; (4) Recommendations relating to providing better education services to individuals with exceptional needs, including, but not limited to, the development, review, and revision of the definition of "appropriate" as that term is used in the phrase "free and appropriate public education" for the purposes of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)**

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No action is proposed, so there is no cost.

## **ATTACHMENT(S)**

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None